## KUCHLER POLK WEINER, LLC



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February 28,2018

Sarah C. Thompson SThompson@kuchletpolk.com Admitted in Louisiana

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED #7008 1830 00011605 3663

Regional Freedom of!nfonnation Officer U.S. EPA, Region 6 1445 Ross Avenue (6MD-OE) Dallas, TX 75202-2733

*Re:* Freedom of Information Act Request:

The Parish of Plaquemines, State of Louisiana

Our file nos.: 116-214202, 214200, 214197and 112-214089

Dear Sir/Madam,

Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552, the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), I respectfully request the following records:

## **Definitions**

For purposes of this FOIA request, please interpret the following terms as indicated:

"Document(s)" should be construed as broadly as possible, and include (but not be limited to) cotTespondence, reports, memoranda, studies, analyses, data, field notes, photographs, maps, and surveys.

"Study(ies)" should be construed as broadly as possible to include (but not be limited to) research, appraisals, investigations, analyses, and surveys.

"EPA" refers to the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

"COE" refers to the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

"Subsidence" refers to the gradual settling or sudden sinking of the Earth's surface, owing to subsurface movement of earth materials, wherein the earth's surface shifts downward relative to a datum such as sea level.

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## Requests

We request all documents related to or regarding:

- I. Any studies or data the EPA has compiled or conducted which analyzes any potential or actual impacts subsidence has had on Louisiana coastal wetlands, including wetlands located in Plaquemines Parish.
- 2. Any and all documents, including correspondence, repmts, memoranda, or analysis relating to any subsidence studies or data compiled or conducted by the EPA regarding potential or actual impacts to Louisiana coastal wetlands, including wetlands located in Plaquemines Parish.
- 3. Any studies or data the EPA has compiled or conducted which analyzes any potential or actual impacts to the Plaquemines Parish coastal zone resulting from the construction of the Mississippi River Gulf Outlet. Impacts include but are not limited to, the conversion of low-salinity marshes and forested wetlands to unvegetated open water.
- 4. Any and all documents, including correspondence, reports, memoranda, or analysis relating to any studies or data compiled or conducted by the EPA regarding any potential or actual impacts to the Plaquemines Parish coastal zone as a result of the construction of the Mississippi River Gulf Outlet. Impacts include but are not limited to, the conversion of low-salinity marshes and forested wetlands to unvegetated open water.
- - 6. Any and all documents, including correspondence, reports, memoranda, or analysis relating to any studies or data compiled or conducted by the EPA regarding the potential or actual impacts of projects affiliated with, led by, or controlled by the Army Corps of Engineers, on the Plaquemines Parish coastal zone.
  - 7. Any studies or data the EPA has compiled or conducted which analyzes the potential or actual impacts of upstream reservoirs and flood control projects along the Mississippi River upon the Plaquemines Parish coastal zone. Impacts include but are not limited to, the conversion of low-salinity marshes and forested wetlands to unvegetated open water.
  - 8. Any studies or data the EPA has compiled or conducted which analyzes any potential or actual impacts upon the Plaquemines Parish coastal zone as a result of the alteration of wetland areas for agricultural purposes and/or urban expansion. Impacts include but are not limited to, the conversion of low-salinity marshes and forested wetlands to unvegetated open water.

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9. Any and all documents, including correspondence, reports, memoranda, or analysis relating to any studies or data the EPA has compiled or conducted which analyzes any potential or actual impacts upon the Plaquemines Parish coastal zone as a result of the alteration of wetland areas for agricultural purposes and/or urban expansion. Impacts include but are not limited to, the conversion of low-salinity marshes and forested wetlands to unvegetated open water.

- 10. Any and all documents showing communications regarding the environmental impacts and/or repair or remediation of same due to the construction and maintenance of the Mississippi River Gulf Outlet.
- 11. Any and all documents showing communications regarding the environmental impacts and/or repair or remediation of same due to the construction of levees associated with the Mississippi River and Tributaries Project.
- 12. Any and all documents showing communications regarding the environmental impacts and/or repair or remediation of same due to upstream reservoirs and flood control projects along the Mississippi River.
- 13. Any and all documents showing communications regarding the environmental impacts, and/or repair or remediation of same, due to the COE's maintenance, including dredging, of Federal navigation canals in coastal Louisiana.
- 14. Any and all documents showing communications regarding the environmental impacts, and/or repair or remediation of same, resulting from the construction or maintenance of Federal hurncane <u>protechon</u> levees.
- 15. Any and all impact studies conducted by, contracted for, or relied upon by the EPA, that discuss land loss and its effect on the construction or maintenance of the federal flood protection system.
- 16. Any and all maps/surveys of land loss utilized in the planning and/or construction of the Mississippi River Gulf Outlet, Mississippi River and Tributaries Project, flood protection system and/or stonn surge modeling.
- 17. Any and all studies conducted by, relied upon, or in the possession of the EPA, associated with an increase in sea-levels due to melting of Arctic ice caps and the effects of that sea-level increase on Louisiana's wetlands, including the Plaquemines Parish coastal zone.
- 18. Any studies or data the EPA has compiled or conducted which analyzes any potential or actual impacts to the Plaquemines Parish coastal zone as a result of the construction of federal interstates, highways, bridges, or railroads. Impacts include but are not limited to, the conversion of low-salinity marshes and forested wetlands to unvegetated open water.

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19. Any and all documents, including correspondence, reports, memoranda, or analysis relating to any studies or data the EPA has compiled or conducted which analyzes any potential or actual impacts to the Plaquemines Parish coastal zone as a result of the construction of federal interstates, highways, bridges, or railroads. Impacts include but are not limited to, the conversion of low-salinity marshes and forested wetlands to unvegetated open water.

In order to determine my status to assess fees, you should know that I am associated with a private company seeking information for the company's business.

I am willing to pay fees for this request, up to a maximum of \$250.00. If you estimate the fees will exceed this limit, please inform me before processing my request.

If you have any questions regarding this request please contact me at (504) 592-0691, or <a href="mailto:Sthompson@kuchlerpolk.com">Sthompson@kuchlerpolk.com</a>. I look forward to receiving your response within the twenty day statutory time period. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Sarah C. Thompson

SCT/rg